

# A Dozen Ways to Find Summer Fun for Kids

By MORAG MACLACHLAN

The end of another school year means pleasure for children and panic for parents who have to keep them occupied for the next three months. Creative and fun solutions to this dilemma can be found in various programs offered around Duxbury.

## Sport and Day Camps

For the athlete or outdoor enthusiast in the family, the Recreation Department and Camp Wing offer a variety of programs.

The Recreation Department is still accepting registrations for their programs ranging from acting classes to gymnastics. They are offering their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Basketball camp for three weeks. The first week will run from June 20 until June 24 and is available to boys aged 8 to 10. The second week will be for boys ages 11 through 13 and will run from June 26 until the 30<sup>th</sup>. The final week of the program will be July 10 until the 14<sup>th</sup> and is for girls ages 8 to 14.

Jan Zabilski, mother of three, enrolled her two daughters and son in the basketball camp last summer.

"They really enjoyed the camp. They found it fun and helpful."

The department's Fifth Annual Soccer Camp will run from Wed. July 5 to Fri. July 8 and is offered for boys and girls aged 6 to 10.

"My children have participated in all of the recreation department's summer programs and are enrolled in the soccer camps this summer," said mother of two Linda Banville.

A six-week gymnastic camp will be available for preschoolers to fifth graders beginning June 26 until August 8.

A tennis camp will run for six weeks starting July 3 until August 11 for boys and girls aged 8-14.

An acting workshop will be offered in two sessions. The first session running from July 10 to 14<sup>th</sup> will be for children ages 6 to 9. The second session

will be offered for ages 10 to 15 and will begin July 24 until the 28.

The final program being offered by the Recreation Department is their Kid's Camp. The camp is for children ages 6 to 12 and will begin June 26 until August 11. The camp will run all day, from 8:30am until 3pm, with trips to the Percy Walker pool on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

Crossroads for Kids Camp Wing Day Camp is another option for local children this summer. The camp is designed for children ages four to 13 and 115 children can participate. Katelynn Lamaree is the director of the camp which is offered in two two-week sessions from June 26 until August 18 Monday to Friday from 9am until 4pm. An extended day is offered from 7:30am until 6pm. Children will have the opportunity to participate in archery, the farm program, a ropes course, swimming, fishing, drama, and boating at the camp.



Children's' sailing programs at the Duxbury Maritime School are great idea for the water lover in the family.



Librarian Nancy Denman stands next to the slogan for the library's annual summer reading program "Open Books, Open Frontiers."

### Reading Programs

If you want to combine reading with fun activities for your child this summer, then look no further than the Duxbury Free Library. The library will be offering their annual summer reading program. This year's program called "Open Books, Open Frontiers" begins on June 26 and will have a reading and activities component. Children preschool age through adult can pick up a reading log to track their progress during the summer months. Young nonreaders can be read to for credit.

"We participate every summer and will definitely register for this summer," said mother of four, Caren Harrison.

There will be many activities offered by the library this summer. There are two events to help celebrate the start of the reading program. Reptiles will feature two to three reptiles being brought to the library on Wednesday June 28 at 3:30pm by a Museum of Science staff

member. This 30-minute program available to children in kindergarten through grade 6 requires registration.

The second event to mark the start of the program is Night Sky T-shirts. This will be held on Thursday June 29 at 10:15am and again at 3:30pm for children in third grade and older. Participants should bring a navy blue or black T-shirt to decorate.

Other activities that will run this summer for children at the library include Stories Under the Trees story time, Paper Airplane Fun, Family Sand and Sculpture at Duxbury Beach, and many more.

According to librarian Nancy Denman, some of the library's more popular programs are Stories Under the Trees and the Annual Pet Show.

"Stories Under the Trees is very popular because families

like the outdoor atmosphere of story time on the grounds of the Wright building. The annual pet show in August is fun partly because it is sponsored by Farfar's so each child receives a coupon for ice cream, and each pet wins in some category like brightest eyes or fluffiest tail," said Denman.

"The pet show really is a lot of fun and every pet and owner walks away a winner. I encourage anyone with a pet to attend," said Banville.

Programs for young adults in grades 7-12 include a Coffee House, Film Series, Astronomy Night, and more.

"We added Explore the Night Sky and Astronomy Night at Duxbury Beach after the success and popularity of the Family Sand and Sculpture at the beach," said Denman.

continued on page 14

## A Dozen Ways to Find Summer Fun for Kids

continued on page 14

Explore the Night Sky will be for the younger children and their parents, while Astronomy Night is for young adults. Contact the library for more information and registration at 934-2721.

### Water Activities

For those with a love of the water, both the Percy Walker Pool and the Duxbury Bay Maritime School offer summer programs.

The Percy Walker Pool will offer swimming lessons in two-week blocks. Lessons will run from 9am until noon and again from 3-4pm. The pool will offer four sets of these lessons beginning June 26.

"My children have taken lessons at the pool in the past, and enjoyed swimming in the schools summer league," said Harrison.

The Maritime school will be offering beginner-scutting classes for children beginning the end of June. Time slots for the program start at 10am until 2pm. Three-week sessions are offered and only slots in the sessions starting July 17 and August 7 are available.

The school along with the New England Aquarium will have a summer ecology program for children. The marine program is designed for fourth to ninth graders. The program offers three different themes for study—Bay Biologists, Seashore Scientists, and Salt Marsh Ecologists. The program will start June 26 and each theme will run for three weeks, so that children can participate in all three if they so desire. Children would meet for three hours each morning and all day Thursday s.

A junior sailing program is also available at the maritime school offering a variety of skill levels. There is limited availability for the three three-week sessions, which will begin on June 26, July 17, and August 7. There is plenty of room in the nine one-week sailing sessions. The first session begins June 26 and the last starts on August 21.

"My kids have never tried the Maritime school's summer programs. This summer they are enrolled in the one week sailing program," said Zabalski.

"My daughter signed up for the one-week Discovery Sailing program. I like the idea of the one-week program because it will give her an introduction to sailing and then she can enroll in a longer course next year if she enjoys it," said Banville.

### Learning is Fun

This summer a variety of places are offering programs for children that combine fun and learning. Take a peek into the past at the Alden House or

explore the world of insects with the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

The Alden House will be offering an event in July called "Everyday Life in Colonial America." The dates for this are July 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 10am and again at 2pm. Topics that will be discussed include tools, utensils, food preparation, gardening, wool culture and spinning, and children's toys and games. An admission cost for the event has not been determined. For more information call 934-9092.

Massachusetts Audubon Society will offer summer programs for children and families. The Duxbury Beach program will begin July 1 and is offered on Saturdays from 9:30am until 11:30am. This program is free thanks to the Duxbury Beach Reservation Incorporated. Last year children and families enjoyed clam digs and other activities.

On one Sunday of each month programs will be at the Daniel Webster Sanctuary in Marshfield. The name of the program is Family Days at the Farm and runs from 1 to 3pm. This nature program will feature butterflies on July 16 and insects on August 20.

The Audubon Society will also offer a day camp running Monday through Friday for children ages 4 through to eighth graders beginning June 19 until August 18.

Other popular summer experiences can be found with the Duxbury Before and After Dark Programs. This facility is located in the Wright Building and utilizes the local schools to host their programs.

"We offer an offer an extensive summer program for preschoolers through to high school students," said Pat Walsh.

A PSAT and SAT verbal prep course begins June 26 and still has openings.

"Almost every summer since we've moved here, I have signed one of my children up for a summer program with the Before and After Dark," said Donna Parrish, mother of two. "The wide range of activities offered to all ages includes nature camps, sports activities, art and drama, and even continued summer support in academic subjects."

The majority of the programs begin around July 10. Science Garden is a two week program beginning July 17 running Monday through Thursday for children seven or eight years old. A Play Production program will run for three weeks Monday through Thursday with a final performance in the middle school auditorium on July 27 at

am. Two one-day creative drama workshops entitled Myths and Monsters and Kid's Comedy will be offered on Fridays.

"My daughter is enrolled in the Kid's Comedy workshop and is really excited," said Manville.

"Last year, my daughter had the best summer ever learning how to act and create a play," said Parrish. "At first she wasn't comfortable with acting, but after I spoke with Pat Walsh and the drama teacher, they went out of their way to encourage her to stay with it."

French is Fun for Kids is available for third to fifth graders. Plastic gauze mask making and another two-week program that still has openings.

If there is an artist in the family, they might be interested in the programs offered by the Art Complex, Expressions, and the Duxbury Art Association.

A creative and fun way to wrap up a child's summer can be found at the Art Complex. Three one-week art programs will begin starting August 7 for children ages 7 and older. Classes will run from Monday until Thursday. The theme for the first week is baseball enlarged.

The second program will run from August 14 to August 17 and children will be printmaking with a lawn roller.

The final week of August 21 to August 24 will have children going to the Marshfield Fairground for two days to sketch the animals there.

Each course is \$50 and this fee includes art supplies.

Another way to satisfy the artist in the family is through the Kids' Camps, one day workshops, and Summer Kids' Club programs offered at Expressions, a paint your own pottery studio located in Snug Harbor.

The Kids' Camp has two age

groups. Children ages five to six can enroll in any of the week long camps starting the week of July 10 until the week of August 14 from 9:30am until 10:45am Monday through Friday. Ages seven to 16 can enroll in Kids' Camp II, which runs the same weeks as the younger children's program but from 9:30am until noon. Children will do various art projects such as mosaics, glass painting, paper mache, tie dye, and painting on ceramics.

"We are also offering workshops in the afternoon where we will teach various painting techniques such as bubble painting, sponging, and stenciling, along with glass painting, mosaics, and tie dying T-shirts," said Tabitha Kent.

One-day workshops are offered on Thursdays and Fridays in July and August from 3pm until 4:45pm for children ages six through 16. Workshop themes include bubble painting, wonder gems, and sponge and stencils.

Expression's Summer Kids' Club is a great way to entertain your children whenever you want. If you pay the \$50 membership fee for children aged 16 and under, you can get free studio time during normal business hours during the months of July, August, and September. Members also receive \$5 off workshops and there is a pizza party on Monday August 21.

The Duxbury Art Association will be offering a variety

of weekly programs for preschoolers through adults starting June 26. Classes will be offered in the morning and afternoon and will teach painting, printmaking, working with clay, and much more. For additional information and registration contact the association at 934-2731, x15.

"The Duxbury Art Association offers classes involving a variety of art mediums. My kids have had the opportunity to experiment with clay, printmaking, and photography," said Harrison.

For the music lover in the household, the South Shore Conservatory offers a number of music and dance programs. Programs such as Summer Wind Ensemble and Festival Wind Ensemble are available for high school students. All-Star Band is designed for middle school children. Adult and family oriented opportunities, like Music for Mom, Dad, and Me are also offered. The Basics of Recording Audio class actually allows students to record a live 2-track session.

Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre of Boston will offer beginner, intermediate, and adult dance classes at the Ellison Center.

For more information and registration, call the conservatory at 934-2731.

Whether your child is athletic, artistic, or inquisitive, there are plenty of opportunities to explore their talents in Duxbury this summer.



**Ali Carter, Eleanor Lawson, Helen Cespedes, and Sarah Faux enjoy designing and painting their own pieces of pottery at Expressions.**